



**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND LAND USE: Zoning**  
**APPLICATION FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL**  
**INITIAL STUDY (AEIS)**

**For Applications NOT Covered By A Previously Completed CEQA Document**

**NOTE: IF THE PROPOSED PROJECT WAS CONSIDERED IN A PREVIOUS CEQA DOCUMENT (NEGATIVE DECLARATION OR EIR) WHICH HAS RECEIVED PREVIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW, DO NOT COMPLETE THIS FORM. COMPLETE DPLU FORM #366 FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW UPDATE.**

**SUBMIT FOUR (4) COMPLETED COPIES TO THE DPLU ZONING COUNTER**

**FOR COUNTY USE ONLY:**

P12-007

**Project Number(s):** ER 12-21-003

**THIS FORM IS BEING COMPLETED BY:**

James E. Whalen

Name (Please Print)

President, J. Whalen Associates

4/24/12

Agency (If applicable)

Title

Date

1660 Hotel Circle N., Suite 725

Address

San Diego

CA

92108

( 619 ) 683 5544

( 619 ) 683 5585

City

State

Zip

Telephone Number

Fax Number

between McCain Valley Rd. and Ribbonwood Rd, Blvd, CA. see attached sheet for APNs

Project Location (including APN)

*I hereby certify that the statements furnished below and in the attached exhibits present the data and information required for adequate evaluation of this project to the best of my ability, that the facts, statements, and information presented are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I further understand that additional information may be required to be submitted before an adequate evaluation can be made by the County of San Diego.*

Signature: 

Date: 5/4/12

Rugged Solar LLC

By: Soltec Solar Development LLC

Clark Crawford, Attorney in Fact



DPLU-367 (12/09)

5201 RUFFIN ROAD, SUITE B, SAN DIEGO, CA 92123 • (858) 565-5981 • 1-888-267-8770 • [www.sdcountry.ca.gov/dplu/](http://www.sdcountry.ca.gov/dplu/)

## GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION \_\_\_\_\_

### I. PROJECT APPROVALS

1. Indicate all discretionary permits, approvals, or findings from the County of San Diego needed to complete the project that are ***anticipated at this time***.

#### **DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND LAND USE ISSUED PERMITS:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Permit            | <input type="checkbox"/> Open Space Easement Vacation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Borrow Pit                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Parcel Map Modification      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grading and Clearing             | <input type="checkbox"/> Reclamation Plan             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lot Area Averaging               | <input type="checkbox"/> Rezone                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Preserve            | <input type="checkbox"/> Road Opening                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment to the Preserve        | <input type="checkbox"/> Road Vacation                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cancellation                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Site Plan                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boundary Adjustment              | <input type="checkbox"/> Specific Plan                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Compliance        | <input type="checkbox"/> Specific Plan Amendment      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Final Map Modifications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Tentative Map                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Plan Amendment           | <input type="checkbox"/> Expired Map                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Habitat Loss Permit              | <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution Amendment         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Plans                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Map                  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major Use Permit      | <input type="checkbox"/> Time Extension               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Modification                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Tentative Parcel Map         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Time Extension                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment of Conditions      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Minor Grading Permit             | <input type="checkbox"/> Expired Map                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Minor Use Permit                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Map                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Modification/Waiver              | <input type="checkbox"/> Time Extension               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Time Extension                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Variance                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Open Space Easement Encroachment | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                 |

#### **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS ISSUED PERMITS:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Right of Way Permits |   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Construction Permit         | <input type="checkbox"/> Improvement Plans                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Encroachment Permit                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Map Modification                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Excavation Permit                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Remandment of Relinquished Access Rights |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grading Permit              | <input type="checkbox"/> Condemnation of Right-of-Way             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grading Permit Plan Change             |   |

#### **DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ISSUED PERMITS:**

- |  |
|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exploratory Borings, Direct-push Samplers, and Cone Penetrometers Permits |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Groundwater Wells and Exploratory or Test Borings Permit                  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Septic Tank Permit   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Underground Storage Tank Permit   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water Well Permit   |

# **I. PROJECT APPROVALS (cont.)**

2. Indicate other permits, approvals, or findings required from regional, state, and federal jurisdictions that are **anticipated at this time**.

	PERMIT	AGENCY WITH JURISDICTION	If previously granted, date of approval
<input type="checkbox"/>	Annexation to a City or Special District	Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	State Highway Encroachment Permit <a href="http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/traffops/developserv/permits/">http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/traffops/developserv/permits/</a>	CalTrans	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	401 Permit - Water Quality Certification <a href="http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb9/Programs/Special_Programs/401_Certification/401_certification.html">http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb9/Programs/Special_Programs/401_Certification/401_certification.html</a>	Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	404 Permit – Dredge and Fill <a href="http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb1/Program_Information/wq_wetcert.html">http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb1/Program_Information/wq_wetcert.html</a>	US Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1603 – Streambed Alteration Agreement <a href="http://www.acwanet.com/regulatory/wildlife/streambed_alt_agmnts.asp">http://www.acwanet.com/regulatory/wildlife/streambed_alt_agmnts.asp</a>	CA Department of Fish and Game (CDFG)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Section 7 - Consultation or Section 10a Permit – Incidental Take <a href="http://www.fws.gov/">http://www.fws.gov/</a>	US Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Air Quality Permit to Construct <a href="http://www.sdapcd.co.san-diego.ca.us/facts/permits.pdf">http://www.sdapcd.co.san-diego.ca.us/facts/permits.pdf</a>	Air Pollution Control District (APCD)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Air Quality Permit to Operate – Title V Permit <a href="http://www.sdapcd.co.san-diego.ca.us/rules/randr.htm#REGULATION%20XIV">http://www.sdapcd.co.san-diego.ca.us/rules/randr.htm#REGULATION%20XIV</a>	APCD	
<input type="checkbox"/>	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit <a href="http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb9/">http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb9/</a>	RWQCB	
<input type="checkbox"/>	General Industrial Stormwater Permit <a href="http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb9/">http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb9/</a>	RWQCB	
<input type="checkbox"/>	General Construction Stormwater Permit <a href="http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb9/">http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb9/</a>	RWQCB	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Waste Discharge Requirements Permit <a href="http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb9/">http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb9/</a>	RWQCB	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Water District Approval	Designated Water District	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sewer District Approval	Designated Sewer District	
<input type="checkbox"/>	School District Approval	Designated School Districts	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Others:		

## II. CODE ENFORCEMENT/VIOLATION ISSUES

Describe any known open or active code enforcement/violation issues on the proposed project site. Indicate related Violation Numbers. If no open or active code enforcement/violation issues are present or known, please state "NONE" or "UNKNOWN", as appropriate. *(Use additional sheets if necessary):*

NONE

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

### III. FEATURES OF THE PROJECT *(Note: Filling out Sections IV. and VII. of this form may help in completing a full project description)*

**DESCRIBE IN DETAIL** the features of the project. This description should adequately reflect the construction and development (for example, grading) as well as the ultimate use and intention of the site (for example, a 40,000 sq. ft. industrial facility). The narrative must be supplemented by a project plan or map of appropriate scale and legibility.

- Include technical aspects of the project such as the considerations of land use, density and intensity, engineering requirements, and visual or aesthetic features.
- Include environmental constraints or characteristics, or compliance with environmental regulations/policies which may have influenced the initial project design such as avoidance of geologic hazards known to the site, steep topography, avoidance of impacts to sensitive resources (for example biological, natural, water, cultural), compliance with the Resource Protection Ordinance, storm discharge requirements, Air Pollution Control District (APCD) permit requirements, project accessibility, hazards (for example floodway avoidance, noise buffering), etc.
- Include description of all the stages of project development that could cause physical changes in the environment including construction, operation and maintenance.
- If the project will be phased, the anticipated phasing schedule should be described.
- Include the objectives of the proposal in a discussion that identifies why the applicant is undertaking the proposed project (for example, provision of housing or commercial services, reduction in traffic congestion, reduction of a flood hazard at a reasonable cost).

**Lack of detail may result in project delay and the requirement to resubmit a more detailed project description.**

*(Use additional sheets if necessary):*

Please see attached project description.

#### IV. ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS OF PROJECT

*This section is to help evaluate all reasonably foreseeable impacts of the proposed project. An answer to each question is required to have well-reasoned and substantiated conclusions, when possible, regarding potential environmental effects of the proposed project. If an answer is unknown, explain why the answer is unknown. Use additional sheets if necessary:*

1. LAND USE: YES ☐ NO ☒ UNKNOWN ☐ Will the project be a land use not presently existing in the surrounding neighborhood?

There are sundry renewable energy projects existing around the site, including the Sunrise Powerlink, Iberdrola Tule Wind and Campo Wind projects.

2. AGRICULTURE RESOURCES: ☒ ☐ ☐ Has the property been in any agricultural use within the last 20 years? If yes, please describe below and include the timeframe and use of the land:

Grazing for cattle, sheep and horses for at least the last 20 years.

3. POPULATION AND HOUSING: ☐ ☒ Will existing housing be removed to allow construction of the proposed project?

No existing homes will be removed.

4. GEOLOGICAL ISSUES ☐ ☒ ☐ Are there any identified or suspected geologic hazards on the site or in the immediate area (landslides, subsidence, earthquake faults, slopes > 25%, etc.)?

5. WATER RESOURCES: ☒ ☐ Does the project propose to use groundwater for any purpose (for example water supply, irrigation, grading)? (Note: If it is stated that the project will not use groundwater for any purpose, the project will be conditioned to either install all necessary public water infrastructure or may be limited from using groundwater)

Groundwater may be used during construction and grading. Operation of the project would entail periodic cleaning of tracker surfaces which may be sources from groundwater.

- ☒ ☐ ☐ Are there any existing water wells on the property? If yes, state how many are currently in-use. (Show all wells on site/plot plans or maps)

Yes. It is unknown how many are currently in use.

- ☒ ☐ ☐ Will the project require new stormwater/drainage facilities?

There are planned watercourses being used following preexisting drainage flow patterns. These watercourses include ditch, vegetated swales and concrete culverts.

6. AIR QUALITY ☐ ☒ ☐ Will the project generate smoke, fumes, or odors?

7. TRANSPORTATION/ CIRCULATION: ☐ ☒ ☐ Will the project affect pedestrians or horse riders or vehicular traffic (including bicycles) in the immediate area?

☐ ☒ ☐ Is there any traffic congestion during commute hours at any nearby street intersections providing access to the project that will be substantially affected? If yes, list the intersection(s):

8. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES ☒ ☐ ☐ Will the project require the removal of natural vegetation (excluding landscaping and agriculture)?

Natural vegetation will be thinned within the proposed 50' fire buffer and tall vegetation will need to be trimmed to below 3' in height.

☒ ☐ ☐ Has the project site been cleared/graded in the past 5 years prior to the submittal of this application? If yes, explain and include details as to the extent, times, and reasons for clearing or Permit Number:

Yes, parts of the site were used by SDGE as a staging yard for Sunrise Powerlink construction.

☐ ☒ ☐ Are there any known or identified unique, rare, threatened, or endangered animals or plants residing on the site or in close proximity?

☐ ☒ ☐ Are there any existing Biological Open Space Easements on the project site or affected by project improvements off-site?

9. HAZARDS: ☒ ☐ ☐

Are there any potentially hazardous and/or toxic materials exist on either this site or nearby property? (Examples of hazardous and/or toxic materials include, but are not limited to PCB's, radioactive substances, pesticides and herbicides, fuels, oils, solvents, and other flammable liquids and gases. Also note, underground storage of any of the above ) If yes, explain and list the material(s) and location(s).

Yes, the transformers will have mineral oil. Mineral oil is hydrocarbon based.

☐ ☒ ☐

Will the proposed project involve the temporary or long-term use, storage or discharge of hazardous and/or toxic materials?

9. HAZARDS  
(cont.):

☐ ☒

Will the project involve the burning of wastes? If yes, explain what materials will be burned:

10. NOISE:

☐ ☒ ☐

Will the project cause a substantial change in existing noise levels in the vicinity?

☐ ☒ ☐

Will the project place new residents in an area of current or anticipated high traffic noise or noise from other sources?

11. PUBLIC  
SERVICES:

☐ ☒

Will the project involve the siting of any schools?

12. UTILITIES AND  
SERVICES:

☐ ☒

Does the project propose to have septic or an on-site sewage treatment facility (for example package treatment plants)?

☒ ☐ ☐

Will the project require annexation to any service agency?

Yes the project will be required to annex into an under-development fire protection district.

13. AESTHETICS (INCLUDES LANDFORMS): ☒ ☐ ☐ Will the project be more visible to the public than are its neighbors (larger than average, not screened by landscaping)?

Yes, the project will entail solar trackers with a height of up to 28 feet.

- ☒ ☐ ☐ Does the property contain natural features of scenic value or rare unique characteristics, including but not limited to trees, rock outcroppings?

Yes there are oak woodlands, which will be avoided, in addition to elevated rock outcroppings in the various parts of the site.

- ☐ ☒ ☐ Will the project introduce glare, reflecting materials or unusually bright colors?

14. CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL RESOURCES: ☐ ☒ ☐ Will the project disturb any archaeological resource such as rock art, grinding and milling features, or artifacts?

No, protection measures such as archaeological monitoring during grading will reduce the chance of any disturbance.

14. CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL RESOURCES (cont.): ☐ ☒ ☐ Will your project involve the demolition or modification of a structure(s) greater than 50 years in age? If yes, explain and supply picture(s) of structure.

- ☐ ☒ ☐ Are there any existing Archaeological Open Space Easements on the project site?

15. MISCELLANEOUS ☒ ☐ Have all known easements including all easements on the property Title report been shown? (Show all easements on site/plot plans or maps)

Yes.



## V. OFF-SITE IMPROVEMENTS

Describe all of the **off-site** improvements necessary to implement the project and their points of access or connection to the project site that are **anticipated at this time**:

1. STREETS: YES ☐ NO ☒ Is the construction of new off-site streets or widening of existing off-site streets proposed? If yes, describe:

2. EXTENSION OF UTILITY LINES: ☐ ☒ Is the extension of sewer/water/electric/gas lines proposed? If yes, describe (include distance to the nearest existing lines – in miles or feet, and the location of anticipated connection point):

3. DRAINAGE/STORMWATER/FLOOD CONTROL: ☒ ☐ Are new off-site drainage/stormwater/flood control facilities or improvements to the existing off-site drainage/stormwater/flood control facilities proposed? If yes, describe:

There are planned watercourses being used following preexisting drainage flow patterns. These watercourses include ditches, vegetated swales and concrete culverts.

4. PATHS: ☐ ☒ Are pedestrian and/or bicycle paths proposed?

## VI. GRADING: **DO NOT** complete this section if this application is for one or more of the following exclusively: Agricultural Preserve, General Plan Amendment, Rezone, or Specific Plan Amendment.

- YES ☒ NO ☐ Will grading or filling be required? If yes, please provide the following information:

Vol. of cut:  cubic yards Max cut slope ratio:  Max. height:  ft

Vol. of fill:  cubic yards Max fill slope ratio:  Max. height:  ft

If soil is to be imported/exported please describe the source of import/export location, if known.  
(Use additional sheets if necessary):

8200 cubic yards will be exported to an as yet unknown location.

- ☐ ☒ Will grading or filling be required off-site? Explain (Use additional sheets if necessary):

- ☐ ☒ Is blasting anticipated? If so, please indicate the possible location of blasting sites on the grading plan & detail the areas expected to be blasted (if known):

- ☐ ☒ Are retaining walls proposed? If yes, what is max. height?  ft. (Show all retaining walls on site/plot plan or map)

**VII. PROPOSED SITE UTILIZATION:** Complete **ONLY** if this application is for one or more of the following: Administrative Permits, Grading Permits, Major Use Permits, Minor Use Permits, Site Plans, and Variances.

1. Total area  acres

Total net acres (total minus area of public and private streets and parkland dedication)  acres

2. Number of buildings  Height  Stories

3. Number of attached residential units  Detached

4. Number of floor area: Commercial uses  Industrial uses

5. Number of off-street parking spaces

**VIII. COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SITE UTILIZATION:** Complete **ONLY** for proposed projects associated with Commercial or Industrial development (including Day Care Centers and Cottage Industries). Fill out to the extent known.

**A. Project Operations**

1. Number of average daily vehicle trips generated by the project

2. Facilities to be open on weekdays from  a.m. to  p.m.

On weekends from  a.m. to  p.m.

3. Total number of employees  Each Shift

4. Number of clients, customers, or users EACH weekday

5. Radius of the service area

6. Total floor area  square feet Type of uses

7. Number of off-site parking spaces provided

8. North American Standard Industrial Classification Code(s)   
<http://www.census.gov/epcd/www/naicstab.htm>:

## B. Industrial Waste

1. YES ☐ NO ☒ UNKNOWN ☐

Will industrial waste be discharged? If yes, attach a discussion of the provisions for disposal.

2. ☒ ☐ ☐

Will the project result in the use or discharge of hazardous materials including hazardous air emissions (i.e., chemicals, dust, smoke, etc.)?

If yes, attach a discussion of the pollutants mandated for control and any special permits required. Also answer the following (*Use additional sheets if necessary*):

The solar cells do contain a trace amount of gallium arsenide, which can be safely removed and properly disposed. The gallium arsenide is located within the solar cell semi-conductor. The amount for the entire project would be roughly 24 ounces.

a. What type of material (s):

gallium arsenide

b. How often?

Small amount in parts of solar trackers to be located onsite

## C. Miscellaneous

1. YES ☐ NO ☒ UNKNOWN ☐

Could the project result in the emission of any substances or energy such as odor, vibration, glare, or electrical disturbance?

2. ☐ ☒ ☐

Will the project contain any unique elements, such as industrial machinery, generators, exterior heavy work areas, outdoor speakers, heavy equipment operation that could generate substantial noise that could be heard outside the project? (Do not include common noise sources associated with all projects such as construction and traffic.)

3. ☐ ☒ ☐

Will the project involve the storage of dangerous materials (for example liquefied petroleum)? If yes, what safety measures have been taken (*Use additional sheets if necessary*)